A. Catalog Entry

EDME 408. Approaches to Teaching
Three hours lecture

Prerequisites: Admission to Teacher Education Program and a minimum 2.5 GPA

EDME 408. In this course the pre-service teacher studies the teaching/learning processes through examining models of teaching. Teacher decision making in planning is a primary focus as students learn how to plan, how to accommodate diverse learning styles and how to evaluate learning. Lab. The lab component includes self-paced media modules and a planned computer component.

B. Detailed Description of Content of Course

1. Personal reflections

(a) Memories of being taught
(b) What made a difference
(c) Self as a learner

2. Observations of teaching

(a) What is the purpose of the lesson?
(b) How is it organized and conducted?
(c) How do students respond?
(d) How is student learning evaluated?

3. Approaches to teaching

(a) Teacher directed
(b) Student centered
(c) Content centered
(d) Thematic/interdisciplinary teaching

4. Decision Making

(a) Collecting student data to guide planning
(b) What to teach?
   - Why is it important?
   - How to make it relevant.
(c) Identifying resources  
(d) Planning models and processes  
(e) Assessing learning and using evaluation to inform planning  
(f) Planning for special needs students  

5. Instruction  

(a) Identifying differences in learning styles  
(b) Examining alternative instructional strategies  
(c) Utilizing multiple resources to promote visual, auditory and tactile/kinesthetic learning  
(d) Foster independent, lifelong learning  

6. Instructional Technology  

(a) Demonstrating skills in planning and using: filmstrip/slide projectors, videos/televisions, film projectors, overhead and opaque projectors, transparency production, laminating and lettering equipment, computer and related equipment (CD Rom and video discs), and networking  
(b) Utilizing word processing programs  
   
   - Selecting computer assisted instructional materials  
   - Using software for classroom management (grading)  

(c) Collaborating with the media specialist as a member of the instructional team  

7. Professionalism  

(a) Professional organizations/standards/journals  
(b) NEA Code of Ethics  

C. Detailed Description of Conduct of Course  

EDME 408 incorporates a variety of teaching strategies including lecture, discussion, cooperative learning and inquiry. Students read widely from multiple sources and conduct observations and field inquiry. Student plan lessons and do micro teaching. Student complete the self-paced modules and are evaluated on their skills in using instructional technology. Computer instruction is integrated with writing lessons and using varied instructional materials including computer software.  

D. Goals and Objectives of the Course  

The goals and objectives of this class address:  

   National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education Standards  
   1c. Professional and Pedagogical Knowledge and Skills for Teacher Candidates  

   National Middle School Association Standards (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7)  

   Virginia Department of Education – Program Standards  
   8VAC-20-542-120 – Middle School 6-8
Having successfully completed this course, the student will be able to:

- Use appropriate methods, including direct instruction, to help a diverse classroom of students develop knowledge and skills, sustain intellectual curiosity, and solve problems
  NCATE 1 c, NMSA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 VDOE 8-VAC20-542-120 (1a d, g)

- Make decisions about planning that involve what to teach, why to teach it, and how to make it relevant to students
  NCATE 1 c NMSA 1, 2,3,4,5,7 VDOE 8-VAC20-542-120 (1a d, g)

- Select a wide range of materials and resources to be utilized in the classroom
  NCATE 1 c NMSA 1, 2, 3, 4 5 7 VDOE 8VAC20-542-120 (1a, d g)

- Write lesson plans with clear objectives and include opportunities for active student learning
  NCATE 1 c NMSA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 VDOE 8VAC20-542-120 (1. a. d.g)

- Plan multiple ways to assess student performance and use assessment information in decision making and planning
  NCATE 1. c NMSA 1, 2, 3, 4 5 7 VDOE 8VAC20-542-120 (1.a. d.g.)

- Practice reflection and self evaluation
  NCATE 1. c NMSA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 7 VDOE 8VAC20-542-120 (1.a.d.g.)

E. Assessment Measures

(1) Class attendance and participation. Given the interactive nature of the class and its correlation with field experiences, students will make peer evaluations in regard to attendance and contributions to the group.

(2) Writing Tasks. Students will keep written reflections on their experiences and/or readings. These will be evaluated in terms of their promptness, relevance, and inquiry nature.

(3) Lesson plans. Students will write unit and/or daily lesson plans and include these in their professional portfolio. These will be evaluated in terms of their content, thoroughness, relevance, and choice of materials. Key NCATE Assessment - Assessment System and Unit Evaluation # 2

(4) Instructional technology. Students will demonstrate successful completion of the self-paced modules. They will integrate technology in their planning of instruction. Key NCATE Assessment - Assessment System and Unit Evaluation # 2

F. Other Course Information

(1) Students will demonstrate their knowledge and skill in using instructional technology as a component of instruction.

G. Approval and Subsequent Reviews

Previous history unavailable
DATE        ACTION       APPROVAL
August 14, 2006   Reviewed   Dr. Elizabeth D. Dore, Coordinator

November 14, 2008 Reviewed  Dr. Elizabeth D. Dore, Coordinator